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HEAVY TRAFFIC

Roundabout cited for most campus accidents

DAVID A. BARRIOS
Staff Writer

The roundabout entrance to University Park on 107th Ave. may be the hot spot for accidents on campus, statistics say.

So far in 2008, there have been 23 traffic accidents while drivers passed through the roundabout, according to Public Safety, making the location the number one spot for accidents.

“[The roundabout] would be the one area on campus where we have the most property damage accidents,” said Director of Public Safety Bill King.

The number of overall traffic incidents on campus this year has been 156.

Property damage accidents include fender benders and minor accidents only.

“What bears mentioning is that each of these accidents have been minor incidents. They’ve involved minor property damage, and none have brought any substantial injuries,” King said.

The amount of accidents at the roundabout is being attributed to the heavy traffic that moves through that area.

“If you look at the number of cars that are coming on to cam-

pus in that particular area – just because of the high concentration of garages and that being the main entrance of the school – that would be the main reason for it being prone to more accidents,” King said.

During a Public Safety study of traffic flow patterns onto University Park in Jan. 2007, it was determined that 279,771 vehicles entered the roundabout during the week of Jan. 5 to Jan. 16.

Almost 102,100 vehicles alone entered from the eastern entrance on 107th Ave. and SW 16th St., making it the highest density entrance for the University.

As the semester progressed, the study shows, the amount of cars entering the campus decreased substantially, though the traffic circle still saw the largest amount of vehicles entering the school.

No study has been held for

Students come to the campus, not realizing that they must yield to traffic that is inside the circle, leading to crashes and incidents.

Bill King, Director
Public Safety

COMEDIAN FOR CHANGE



GIOVANNI GUADARRAMA /THE BEACON

SI SE PUEDE: Actor George Lopez spoke during lunch at the Graham Center pit on Nov. 3 to endorse Democratic candidate Barack Obama.

2008 but Public Safety said that enrollment numbers into the University have been similar and so should the traffic patterns and the amount of vehicles that enter the roundabout.

Junior Vanessa Penata said the roundabout’s two lanes cause

confusion for some students.

“It has two lanes and people are not sure whether to drive on the outside lane or the inside lane,” Penata said.

King agrees that some incidents can be attributed to unfamiliarity with the use of a roundabout.

“Students come to the campus, not realizing that they must yield to traffic that is inside the circle, leading to crashes and incidents,” King said. “Sometimes, people are just careless as they enter into the roundabout. Speed can be a contributing factor. That can be

from a person running late, trying to get to class and not being courteous enough to yield.”

Senior Daniel Quiros thinks students on campus are not accustomed to driving in a roundabout.

“Traffic circles are not common on college campuses,” Quiros said.

Weather also plays a factor, King explained.

“They sometimes occur more often in bad weather, mainly rain. During one of the more re-

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University advances toward its \$35 million goal

OLGA VELEZ
Staff Writer

The University Advancement Division has raised over \$11 million since July, bringing it almost one-third closer to its annual goal.

The recently hired Vice President for Advancement Robert Conrad began his tenure on Nov. 3. but for over a year University Advancement has been led by Sandra Gonzalez-Levy, who worked as interim vice president for Advancement.

Since July 2007, Gonzalez-Levy has directed the division,

breaking fundraising records and leaving the seat for the newly hired Conrad \$11.4 million closer to its \$35 million goal this fiscal year, which ends in June 2009.

According to the University Advancement Web site, its main goal is to bring “private gifts” to the University in order to “erect the most cutting edge scientific laboratories ... the most advanced and accessibly classrooms and studios, and promote the University’s mission.”

“It’s a whole world that is called Advancement and it’s all these people who wake up every day to try to figure out how

The State gives us money, less every day ... There is no money there to do great things. That is where Advancement steps in.

Madeline Baro, assistant director
Media Relations

to fill voids in the University,” said Assistant Director of Media

Relations Madeline Baro. “The State gives us money, less every day, to run but that’s it. There is no money there to do great things. That is where Advancement steps in and that is where private money steps in.”

The \$11.4 million that has been raised so far, according to Gonzalez-Levy, has been donated for the Biology Lab, the College of Business, the Metropolitan Center, the Student Investment Fund, the Patricia and Philip Frost Art Museum, the First Generation Scholarship, the College of Engineering and Computing and the College of

Medicine.

“This year the largest donation, part of the \$11.4 million raised, was a \$3 million donation that was also matched with by the state,” Gonzalez-Levy said. “That makes it a total of \$6 million. The donation was for the Medicine and Society program in the College of Medicine and it was donated by the Bachelor Foundation.”

However, Gonzalez-Levy emphasizes that Advancement is not alone in the effort to raise money for the school.

MONEY, page 2

Traffic circle raises concerns

TRAFFIC, page 1

cent rainstorms, a number of accidents did occur there,” he said.

King stressed that the highest concentration of incidents tend to occur between 7-9 a.m., during lunch time, during the late afternoon and at the end of evening classes.

Some have raised the question whether a traffic control device, such as a traffic light, should be effective in reducing traffic at that entrance.

“Roundabouts are extremely efficient, but as more traffic comes onto campus, in the near future, we’re going to have to evaluate whether it is still the

most efficient way of dealing with traffic that comes in from 107th Ave.,” King said.

But for King, a traffic light would not be an effective idea, simply because the entrance is so close to 107th Ave. and would cause too much congestion. There would be too many cars packed in. The roundabout is the best way we can manage traffic at that entrance at this time.

According to Quiros education is the key to preventing accidents.

“Maybe they should give a seminar during freshmen orientation on how to drive around the traffic circle,” he said.



GIO GUADARRAMA/THE BEACON

VICIOUS CIRCLE : The roundabout is the highest accident prone entrance. A 2007 Public Safety study determined that almost 120,100 vehicles entered campus through there, making it the highest density entrance.

New employees, promotions push progress forward

MONEY, page 1

“This is a team effort,” she said. “In the division, there are 60 employees. They are not the only ones that work with fundraising. All of the deans also work very hard to do fundraising for their own units. They also work with the provost, the vice presidents in the University and the president.”

There have also been several changes in the division during

the past 16 months, which have made the process of raising funds more efficient.

“We restructured the Advancement division,” Gonzalez-Levy said. “We actually brought in new hires as well as promoted people within the division. We had about 23 either new hires or promotions that we made in order to be able to structure the Advancement division.”

The newest hire has been Conrad.

He comes from the Florida

State University Foundation and with over 20 years in fundraising experience.

The State’s financial crisis has not affected the ability to raise funds for the University, according to Gonzalez-Levy.

“So far we have been able to raise \$11.4 million, which is basically 33 percent of our total goal,” she said. “In the financial crisis that we are going through, we have been very fortunate that our donors have continued to see the need [of the University] and

how far their dollars actually go to serve the University’s needs, the scholarships, the students and so on.”

The \$10 million donation from the Leon Medical Center was the University’s largest donation last year.

“We had one of the largest gifts that the University has ever received,” Gonzalez-Levy said. “That was \$10 million and it was matched by the state. That made the total donation \$20 million.”

Those \$20 million, donated

to the new College of Medicine, were part of the \$52 million that were raised last year.

If the division is able to raise more than this year’s goal, it would not be the first time the team has gone above and beyond their aspirations.

“The last fiscal year started in July of 2007 and ended in June of 2008,” Gonzalez-Levy said. Our goal was to raise \$30 million and we raised \$52 million.”

JOIN OUR STAFF!



The **BEACON** is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don't be shy. Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.

CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Oct. 31, 2008, the News article titled “Adult video shot in fraternity,” Interfraternity Council President Alex Ruiz did not confirm the video was shot in the FIJI fraternity house. The same article also stated that FIU’s FIJI Chapter President was Marcio Souza. Their chapter president is Michael Halpert.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

THE BEACON

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INFORMATION

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Group informs community with Mid-East lecture

SERGIO MONTEALEGRE
Contributing Writer

The climate crisis and America's dependence on oil will be the main themes of a Middle East Society lecture.

The Middle East Society, a group within the International Relations and Geography department, will host a discussion about energy and climate concerns on Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m. at the Temple Beth Torah, Benny Rok Campus (20350 N.E. 26 Ave.) in North Miami Beach.

The lecture, "Freedom from Mid-East Oil: How America Can Overcome the Energy-Climate Crisis," will cover America's current energy crisis, its imports of foreign fuel from members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, and the effects on the environment of the United States' current energy usage, according to Shlomi Dinar, director of the Middle East Society.

According to Dinar, discussions will also include the search for alternative sources of energy and independence from OPEC nations.

"It's a very timely issue," said Dinar. "Especially when it's an important enough issue on the political campaign that both [candidates] are voicing their stances over it."

The lecture is open to the public, and participation is encouraged to gather different viewpoints on the topic, and examine

all the pros and cons of each option.

"Anyone from greater Miami, the student body of FIU and other universities are more than welcome to attend," Dinar said.

Jerry Brown, an FIU founding professor from the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, will be a guest speaker at the lecture.

Brown is an award-winning teacher who has written several articles and books on energy policy, technology and political cycles in American history.

One of them, "Freedom from Mid-East Oil," will be the focal point of the lecture and will be sold at the event.

Proceeds from the sales and membership fees for the Middle East Society – \$35 for individual memberships but free for degree-seeking FIU students – will go to the Department of International Relations.

"It's not required to be a member to attend the event, but becoming one will benefit the society," Dinar said.

Another lecture hosted by the Middle East Society, "The Internal Palestinian Conflict: Implications for Israel and America," will take place Dec. 14.

"We are a tool for exposing FIU and the community about who we are, what the Society is about and our expertise on the Middle East," Dinar said.

For more information about these events, call (305) 919-4839.

SPICE UP YOUR LIFE



NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

FINE DINING: Vincent Tien, teaching assistant for Chef Morgan's advanced cooking class, twists crushed peppercorn onto the *churrasco* and avocado tower before the student-run hospitality luncheon series on Nov. 6.

Marine discussion addresses water treatment bill, initiatives

PARADISE AFSHAR
Staff Writer

There are nearly 300 million gallons of domestic wastewater in the Atlantic Ocean every day, which come from six water treatment facilities in Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties, according to Gov. Charlie Crist's Web site.

Due to recently passed Senate Bill 1302, which aims to fix waste water issues, the restoration of water treatment facilities will be the topic of discussion in the fifth part of the marine science seminar series on Nov. 6.

"[It's] an opportunity for all students and faculty in the de-

partment to get together and hear a talk about recent research in the field," said Craig Layman, marine sciences professor.

The seminar will be held in the Marine Sciences building, room 105 at 11 a.m.

Guest speakers will be Patrick A. Davis, vice president and southeast regional director of Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., an international environmental engineering firm focused exclusively on water resources, science and engineering.

Both have built a redesigned wastewater system in Palm Beach County, among other treatment facilities in the state that clean water to safer levels before releasing it into the ocean.

"One of the issues that is increasingly acknowledged as important in South Florida is the amount of minimally-treated water we are putting into the oceans," Layman said.

The new water treatment plant is a part of Gov. Crist's extension of the Florida Forever laws, which address environmental issues in the state.

Davis' presentation is being held in conjunction with Layman's coastal marine conservation course, designed to provide a broad overview of the current issues in coastal conservation.

"[It] should be a valuable learning experience for FIU undergrads," Layman said.

How to make an award-winning, praise-earning tiramisu

Desserts have a way to the heart that other foods just don't.

They can be the perfect end to a perfect meal, or the saving grace of a bad one, but nothing can put a smile on a face quicker than the words chocolate, frosting or whipped cream.

Desserts have personality; they can be romantic like a soft, velvety dark chocolate mousse with raspberries, or sexy like full, plump chocolate-covered strawberries with luscious champagne foam. The point is dessert has an effect on our lives that not many foods have.

We even refer to desserts differently than everyday foods. For instance, when have you heard a woman at the next table let out a foodgasmic sigh and exalt "Oh my gosh, this chicken is better than sex!"?

Desserts take over our palettes, connect with our sensuality through the succulent, sometimes exotic ingredients, and most of the time, create foodgasms.

There is one dessert that I make for friends on special occasions, that induces the fanciful reaction that desserts so often do – my "Will you marry me?" tiramisu.

Here are the steps to make your significant other propose to you, and give them a foodgasm all at the same time:

- Take six egg yolks and 1 ¼ cups of sugar, and combine them over a double boiler.

A double boiler is simple to make. Take a pot filled halfway with water and bring it to a boil. Place a bowl on top of the pot, so that it is not directly in contact with the water. This method allows a slow and even cooking that is necessary when cooking delicate ingredients – in this case the egg yolks. If you were to combine the egg yolks and sugar over direct heat, your eggs would curdle and become like scrambled breakfast eggs – that is not the effect you want.

- Mix your eggs and sugar over your double boiler on low heat for 10 minutes, stirring constantly until your mixture becomes light

yellow, thick and frothy.

- Take the mixture off the heat and whip in 1 ¼ cups of mascarpone cheese.

This triple-cream cheese is the core of any tiramisu, and is unique because although thick and creamy like cream cheese, it has a distinct sweet flavor that does not overpower its smooth, cheesy quality.

- Once the mascarpone is incorporated into the egg yolk mixture, set it aside while you whip 1 ¾ cups of heavy whipping cream in a different bowl, and whip the cream until stiff peaks form. The test for stiff peaks is to remove your whisk and hold it upside down. If your whipped cream sits atop the whisk, and isn't runny, then you are successful.

- Fold the whipped cream into the mascarpone mixture. Now you are ready to assemble.

- Layer store-bought lady fingers into your serving dish after dipping them in a mixture of Kahlua and espresso. I recommend eyeballing the dipping mixture to your taste.

- Pour half of your cream mixture to cover the lady fingers and then repeat the lady finger dipping and layering. Pour the rest of

your cream mixture, and then garnish with some dusted cocoa powder and chocolate shavings.

Now, here is the secret of my tiramisu that makes it oh-so-spoon-lickable:

- Let the tiramisu sit out for 10 minutes after you finish making it, then, put it in the freezer until 10-20 minutes before serving.

By freezing it and serving it still on the cold side, the texture of the tiramisu is like velvety ice cream. It is also easier to serve and eat because it keeps its shape and is not degraded by the absorption of the liquids.

This dessert is sure to impress any guest, friend or lover. It is the kind of ending to a meal that people dream of. Don't be afraid if your mate licks the plate clean while gasping for air – this is a true side effect of life-changing dessert – then you know you made it right. Hat off to the chef!

Need help with a recipe or finding a place to eat? Bianca is here to help! Send any questions, comments or Foodgasm ideas to bianca.rojas@fiusm.com



TWEAKING TOTS



Genetic alterations could deter diseases

KEVIN CASTRO
Staff Writer

"Do we want our son born with or without diseases, honey?" You may find yourself asking this question in the near future due to new advanced reproductive technologies. These technologies allow parents and doctors to screen embryos for genetic disorders and select healthy embryos in addition to gender selection.

In Vitro Fertilization, which is used for gender determination, and Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis, which screens embryos for genetic diseases, are the only two legal advanced reproductive technologies.

Dr. Rene J. Herrera, professor at the Molecular and Human Genetics department at FIU talks about the number of diseases that can be avoided using PGD.

"A limited number of diseases could be prevented because a diagnosis has only been worked out for a limited number of genes," Herrera said.

In the future we may be able to "cure" genetic diseases in embryos by replacing faulty sections of DNA with healthy DNA. This is called germ line therapy. Such therapy has successfully been done on animal embryos but is illegal to perform on humans.

The reason it is illegal is because "you can

affect the DNA of future generations, and you don't know what the outcome is going to be," Herrera said.

Determining the sex of an embryo can be useful because some genetic diseases, like hemophilia and Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, only show themselves in male babies. If the parents have a history of male-related disease, then techniques such as PGD can be used to choose a healthy female embryo instead.

When it comes to gender selection, it is very dangerous, since highly-populated countries such as China or India value males over females.

"They have a tendency to choose a male child," said Assistant Professor Dr. Sean Allen-Hermanson of the Philosophy department.

This would unbalance the male to female ratio and affect society.

Some children will be born with a genetic disease and die before birth or at a young age. Telling their parents not to undergo the procedure is the equivalent to a slow and painful abortion; the child slowly dies before your eyes as its growth and future is terminated. This can be averted by simply modifying the genes of the child before implantation.

These genetic techniques will eventually eliminate the

hundreds of genetic diseases that cause many deaths worldwide. Allowing children to be born with a genetic disease when it is preventable is equivalent to torture, as if you're purposefully exposing them to the risk of preventable diseases.

Should we also enhance the IQ of our children, ushering in a new era of "enlightenment," as all children born would have double the IQ of current human beings? This could also expedite the scholastic experience significantly. If the technology to make ourselves smarter as a species exists, then why should we hold ourselves back?

child's intelligence, health and physical traits for cash, then this would separate society into two different types: the gen-rich, the "new and improved" humans and the gen-poor, those without the money to pay for it, or those that refuse to do so even if they have the money.

"The ones with a genetic advantage will

"These genetic techniques will eventually be able to eliminate hundreds of genetic diseases that are the cause of many deaths worldwide."

Should we also change the physical traits of our children to however we see fit? Hell no! Remember, these are your children, not some custom-made hot rod.

You have the freedom and the right to modify, change, enhance and even disable your body, but not that of others. Can you decide my hair color? No. Would you enjoy it if I changed your skin or eye color? I bet not. Preventing disease and increasing intelligence only increase the prosperity and health of our species, not hamper it.

There have also been cases in which parents used IVF to use their new child as a future donor for their other child. Yes, this would save the older sibling's life, but at what cost?

Children should be loved and cherished for themselves and not what they can do for others. The "organ-factory" you just ordered is still your child - and furthermore, a human being.

These genetic techniques are very expensive. Why should only the affluent reap the benefits of genetic enhancement? Should parents be allowed to change the

outcompete those without, and will create a genetic elite. Yes, the rich get richer and the poor get poorer on the condition that new technologies are distributed by the principle to each according to one's ability to pay," Hermanson said.

Many will ask if this is right, if this is unnatural. Many would say that this is playing God.

Technically we started playing that game ever since we discovered medicine and flight. If it was somehow against any religious deity's purpose, then it would make sense that we would not be able to do so, but we can.

Therefore, it can be determined that if a religious deity did in fact desire that we did not proceed in this direction, we would not have the ability to do so.

Thus, the religious deity would have impeded our growth of technological and scientific knowledge long ago.

Genetic manipulation is just another tool that we have, although it's a rather new one. Just like all new tools, though, we must be very careful in using it.



Only a fraction of the political spectrum visible to voters

ERIC FELDMAN
Opinion Editor

Print media is interesting in that, as much as we have embraced technology, I have no idea who will be our next president as I write this.

But as you are reading this, the polls will have been closed, and a winner hopefully announced. Whatever the outcome, the most disappointing part of this race, which applies to most of our nation's history and our future, is that only a small sliver of the political spectrum is represented. A small amount of deviation from the status quo will be allowed for with either president-elect, despite the predominant buzz word of this election, which I don't even need to bother mentioning.

The basis of our country's governance will not be challenged. We will not end up with a government on Jan. 20 that does not stop to question if we should bail out banks, provide

aid to potentially hostile nations while we face financial ruin at home, keep so many troops stationed abroad in over 100 nations or engage in so many constitutionally questionable initiatives such as equal access to housing, which we're seeing perceived as humanitarian but ultimately fiscally implausible adventure.



FELDMAN

It's not that agents of true metamorphosis (look how hard I am trying not to use the "c"-word) do not exist, it's that the people don't want to hear them. Despite incessant whining about having to settle for the "lesser of two evils," Americans have not elected a president that was not a Republican or a Democrat since 1860. The U.S. government is a two-party one, and in some ways, this has served us well for the past hundred years. But the basis of our Constitution is that once a government becomes ineffective, it is the people's right to replace it.

The most frustrating part is not that we can't get a president into the White House from a dif-

ferent party, but that so-called radical views deviate from the very narrow center of the political spectrum of which all of American politics is devised. I do not desire for our country to be run under completely libertarian nor socialistic ideals, but frankly it grinds my gears that we are not allowed to actually discuss issues without divisiveness or that legitimate political views become curse words during election season.

A true redirection of the nation cannot be led by any candidate who is willing to move more and more to the center with each day that the election moves closer, especially when we only get such a narrow view of the spectrum in the first place. A true 360 of ideology cannot come from someone who is afraid to stand up and ask with passion why we squander money the way that we do, why the Constitution is regarded as little as it is when making laws. Remind me under what authority the federal government has to keep such a strangle hold over the sovereign several states on issues ranging from educational policies and narcotics laws.

Candidates on both sides of the aisle (rather, ones that are getting pushed off the edge of the bench) were not given the time of day this election cycle. Chuck Baldwin was the resident strict Constitutionalist this time around. Frankly, "Constitution" is a term that I would like to see more politicians invoke, though I know most of them would probably use it in vain.

Socialist candidates are also ignored. It's hard for them not to be when that word is being used as a no-no against the much more moderate Democratic party. As someone who voted for Ron Paul in the primaries, I certainly have no desire to see any sort of socialism implemented, but the fact of the matter is that successful developed nations in the world do run on this system, and it is odd to see the word be so taboo.

Americans, we may have screwed ourselves over for another four years by silencing everything not in the mainstream (regardless of who will have won by the time these words are in print), but for future reference: please keep a more open mind.

ART IN WONDERLAND

Mad Hatter returns, shines light on old school Grove art

**DIANA
JORDAN**
Staff Writer

Art lovers will be tumbling down the rabbit hole on Nov. 8 and 9 as the fourth annual Mad Hatter Arts Festival comes to Coconut Grove.

The festival, which takes place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., is a unique combination of artwork and music and will showcase over 50 artists of varying mediums including photographers, jewelers, musicians, painters and sculptors.

The event's tagline - "A place where genius is insanity, usefully applied" - was taken from the quote by the famous author of "Alice Through the Looking Glass" by Lewis Carroll.

"I like the fact they incorporated an Alice and Wonderland theme", said Donna Perez, a freshman majoring in English. "It ties in well with the idea of artistic expression and uniqueness, making the festival appealing to all ages. This is something my entire family can go to together."

One key difference about this festival is the fact it highlights local and emerging artists, allowing passersby to enjoy artists' work at reasonable prices before they "make it big."

The festival brought in over 9,000 people during the span of

two days last year and is expected to turn out even bigger crowds this year as it gains in popularity.

Taking place entirely on the sidewalks, the festival goes back to the Grove's roots of being an artists' village.

"It is important Coconut Grove is being recognized for what it is," said Carmen Sarduy, a freshman majoring in psychology. "Unfortunately, it is no longer considered an artist's city, so events such as these are necessary in order to recall its history, something most people do not know about."

When students were approached and asked if they knew the history of Coconut Grove, they were surprised to learn that originally, in the late 1800s, the city was home to artisans and craftsmen from across the country.

Catering to the Bohemian lifestyle, the "Grove," as it has come to be known, provided artists and innovative minds inspiration and a place to express their creativity among the beautiful scenery, trees and water.

"We would like this festival to be a remembrance of what the true heartbeat of Coconut Grove is," said Daisy Lewis, the festival's director. "By going back to its original roots, we hope to show a completely different side of this beautiful city. This is not only a place to shop and dine, but also a culturally rich and diverse place filled with creativity around every corner."

Along with artwork, music will also be performed throughout the day. Performers will be playing concurrently throughout the festival and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. a drum circle will take place, which will allow spectators to interact with performers and musicians.

Diners and shoppers may also benefit from the weekend by receiving discounts and sales at various participating res-

taurants and boutiques in the area

"[Everyone] will be able to take something from this weekend, whether it be the art, music, face painting, clowns or story telling," said Lewis. "We hope the event will provide entertainment and be educational as well. I want everyone to be able to come out and enjoy themselves while taking a piece of Coconut Grove with them."

For more information, visit the event's Web site at madhatterfestival.com.



Horror opera, new Bond flick among November's releases

STEVE MESA
Staff Writer

October has come and gone, but it doesn't mean movie-goers will no longer have an abundance of films to look forward to. Here are a few movies that will be filling up seats at your local cinema this November.

NOV. 7 "REPO! THE GENETIC OPERA"

Anybody who was not satisfied with the musical numbers and blood in "Sweeney Todd" might want to take a look at this movie. Directed by Darren Lynn Bouman ("Saw II", "Saw III" and "Saw IV"), horror veterans Bill Moseley ("The Devil's Rejects"), Paris Hilton ("House of Wax") and Anthony Head (TV's "Buffy the Vampire Slayer") are assembled for this bloody tale about a biotech company that hires a man (Head) to forcefully take organs from donors who missed their

scheduled payment. Meanwhile, a young woman (Alexa Vega) with a rare blood disease searches for information on her family's mysterious history.

NOV. 14 "QUANTUM OF SOLACE"

The name's Bond. James Bond. Daniel Craig returns for his second outing as the rugged agent 007. Leaving off where "Casino Royale" ended, Bond seeks out the organization that killed his lover. Teamed up with a woman (Olga Kurylenko) with revenge on her mind, all clues point to an environmentalist (Mathieu Amalric) who wants to take control of the world's water supply. Directed by Marc Forster ("Monster's Ball"), "Quantum of Solace" also features the return of Dame Judi Dench ("Shakespeare in Love") as Bond's boss and Jeffrey Wright ("Shaft") as CIA agent Felix Leiter.

NOV. 21 "TWILIGHT"

Taking over the former opening date of "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," "Twilight" is based on the first book in a series by Stephenie Meyer. Recently moved from Arizona to Washington, Bella (Kristen Stewart) falls in love with the mysterious Edward (Robert Pattinson), who turns out to be a vampire. Their relationship is in trouble though, as another vampire (Cam Gigandet) looks to hunt the blood of Bella. If this movie is successful, we can look forward to the next book-to-screen adaptation, "New Moon."

NOV. 26 "TRANSPORTER 3"

This year, Jason Statham has robbed a bank in the '70s in "The Bank Job" and raced in a destructive car in the future in "Death Race." Statham returns to the fran-

chise that first made him an action star in "Transporter 3." Last spotted in Miami, Frank Martin (Statham) is a former mercenary who reformed himself as a specialist who moves "goods" of all kind. Following this movie, Statham will be seen in his next franchise movie as hit man Chev Chelios in the sequel to "Crank," "Crank 2: High Voltage."

"FOUR CHRISTMASES"

Ever wanted to avoid spending the holidays with your family? Vince Vaughn ("Swingers") and Academy Award-winner Reese Witherspoon ("Walk the Line") are a couple forced to spend the holidays with their two divorced families after their plans to spend Christmas together are ruined. On Vaughn's side of the family, we have Oscar-winners Robert Duvall ("The Godfather") and Sissy Spacek ("Carrie") as the divorced parents,

and his "Swingers" co-star and best friend Jon Favreau as his brother, a UFC fighter. On Witherspoon's side of the family, we have Oscar-winner Jon Voight ("National Treasure") and Mary Steenburgen ("Step Brothers") as the separated father and mother.

"MILK"

An Oscar contender is on the horizon as Sean Penn aims to win his second Best Actor Oscar as Harvey Milk, California's first openly gay politician. Directed by Oscar-nominated director Gus Van Sant ("Good Will Hunting"), "Milk" features a great all-star ensemble that includes James Franco ("Pineapple Express") as Milk's lover and Josh Brolin ("W.") as a city supervisor discontent with Milk's agenda.

Milk's life was also the subject of another film, the Oscar-winning 1984 documentary, "The Times of Harvey Milk."

Free iPhone apps not only distracting, beneficial

Applications for Apple's iPhone can run anywhere from \$0.99 to \$7.99 and beyond, but you can find a good selection of freebies if you have a spare 48 hours to sift through the iTunes store's evergrowing selection.

If you're a student with an iPhone, then online window-shopping is a luxury (and distraction) your packed schedules probably can't afford. To save you from having to tell your professor that Apple ate up your homework time, here's a list of free applications that'll make your life easier. You're welcome.

TECHNOLUST



SUSANA RODRIGUEZ

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FITNIO

With all this help for your mind, don't forget to help your body. With Fitnio, you can get out of the gym to workout outdoors without skipping a beat.

Fitnio tracks distance, time and calories burned from walking, running or cycling. You can start your next workout on a high note when you open the application and see your exercise backlog on the home screen listing how many runs and bike rides you've done, including the total calories burned over time.

When you're ready to wrap up your workout, you can tap the Cool Down button to review your session at a glance while you slow your heartrate. By signing up for a free account at www.fitnio.com you can keep track of your exercise statistics and workout trends over time to gauge your progress.

And for those out late at night in scary neighborhoods or that didn't consult their doctors before starting their new exercise program, there's an emergency call function at the ready to dial your best friend or 911.

BALANCE

With debit cards overshadowing cash and checkbooks, knowing how much money you have on hand depends on how often you log online to check your balance or how good your memory is.

Balance lets you manually log deposits and withdrawals you make on one of your accounts, preferably not your life savings. You can input what kind of deposit or withdrawal you made, the dollar amount and notes on the transaction. Balance will time and date stamp the entry and calculate the account's new balance to help keep you in the green.

You can password protect your balance information and even export your log to your desktop as a spreadsheet file to backup on your hard drive.

EASY WRITER

Let's face it, writing e-mails on the iPhone's vertical mode keyboard sucks.

Make e-mails easy to write again with Easy Writer, an application that replaces the narrow vertical keyboard with a wide horizontal one.

To reply to e-mails from different accounts, open up the message and hit "reply" in the phone's mail program. Allow the phone to download the original email message and then hit the home button to go back to the homescreen and open up Easy Writer. In the application you'll find a copy of the email to reply to and its addressee already filled out for shipping when you're done writing.

However, to send e-mails in Easy Writer you can only ship from the default account you've listed in your iPhone's settings. Work around this by changing the information in settings and then just write in the application to ship messages from the new temporary default.

Don't forget to switch back and reenter your original information.

GO GET 'EM, PANTHER



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

GOLDEN SUPPORT: Head coach of the Golden Panthers' football team Mario Cristobal pats fullback John Ellis on the back during the Homecoming kickoff in the Graham Center on Nov. 3.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 5

WHAT: FIU MUSIC PRESENTS: The U.S. Navy Commodores Big Band
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center Concert Hall
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: Italian Club Meeting
WHERE: GC 243
WHEN: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: "Give Til It Hurts" Blood Drive
WHERE: in front of GC Bookstore
WHEN: 11 a.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

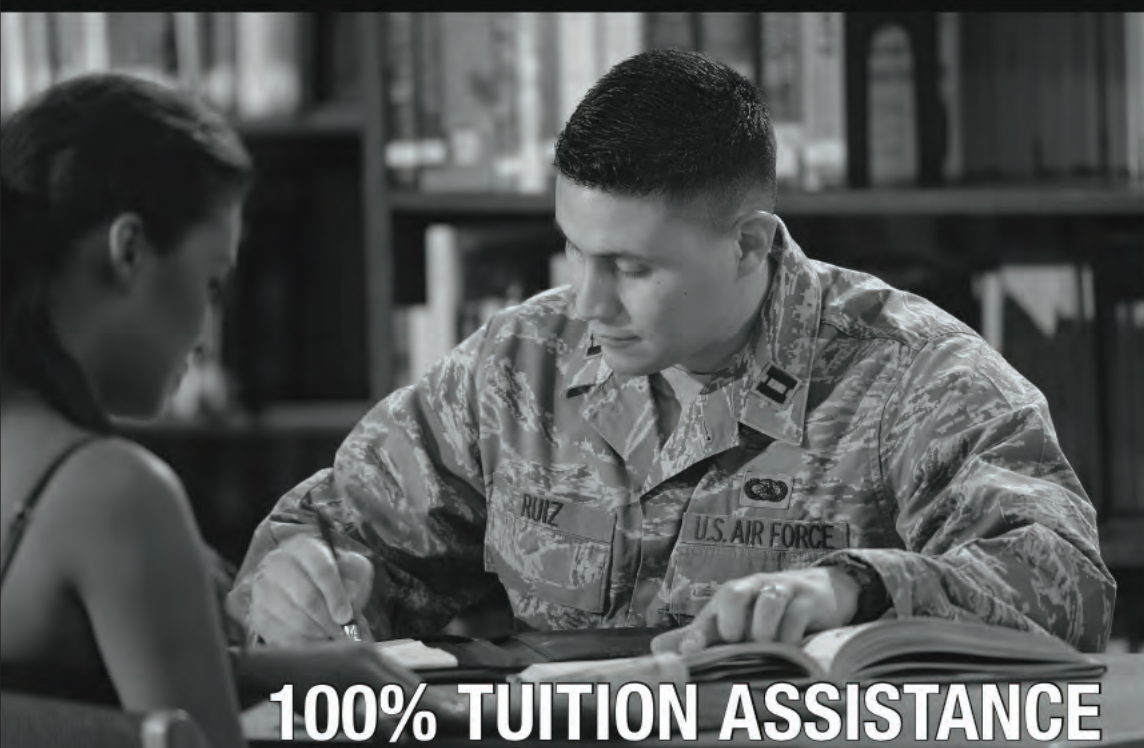
THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 6

WHAT: Honors College Excellence Lecture Series: former Senator Bob Graham
WHERE: GC East Ballroom
WHEN: 3:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: Invisible Children Meeting
WHERE: GC Piano Room
WHEN: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: FIU Theatre Spring's Awakening
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: varies

Compiled By: Rosalyn Delgado



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Conference Tournament hopes still alive for men

STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Staff Writer

The FIU men's soccer team has refined their chances of appearing in the C-USA conference tournament after a 2-1 win over UAB on Nov. 1 at the University Park campus.

This marked FIU's fourth win of the season, as well as their first home victory since last November.

After the win, head coach Munga Eketebi stressed that a healthy roster is one of the keys to his team's rising success, for they have returned two significant players from injury in the past two games.

"This is the first time that we're at full strength the whole year and it showed," Eketebi said.

Diego Tamburus, a junior mid-fielder, is one

Golden Panther who was cleared to play against UAB since sitting out due to injury.

Tamburus wasted no time getting back into the momentum as he assisted FIU to their first goal on a cross off to Corey Kendall in the 22nd minute of the match.

"Once you get things done offensively, it raises the whole level of the team," Eketebi said.

Along with the offense, FIU defenders distinguished themselves early on, as UAB was held to 7 shots in the first half and went scoreless up to the 50th minute when Kevin Sawchak scored on a rebound from 8 yards out to tie the score at 1-1.

It certainly didn't take long for FIU to respond.

Less than ten minutes later Tamburus was there

once again with the assist for a tie-breaking goal, a header scored by Phill Fisher, the senior and team captain from Swindon, England.

"We came together today, battled hard; we had our bodies up against the wall and we really pulled it out of the bag," said Fisher.

The Blazers came across opportunities but were unable to put up another goal.

FIU's starting goal keeper Shane Lopez secured the win with a diving save late in the second half.

Lopez had a total of 4 saves for the night; 1 in the first and 3 in the second half.

"Unfortunately this comes so late in the season, but it's not over till it's over. We know what it feels like, we did the same

thing last year and we made it hard for ourselves, but we're not out of it yet," Fisher said. "That's what soccer is all about; one mistake and you're behind, so it's just about concentrating 100 percent."

The match improved FIU's record to 3-10-2 (2-5-0 C-USA). The squad will continue their hopes toward the conference tournament as they concentrate on their remaining regular season games against Florida Atlantic on Nov. 3 and SMU on Nov. 7, both being home games with kickoff set for 7 p.m.

With a win or tie against SMU, or a UAB loss to Marshall, in Birmingham on Nov 7, would give FIU a berth in the 2008 Conference USA tournament this year, hosted by the Houston Cougars.



CHARI ADAMES-SMITH/THE BEACON

STILL KICKING: Cory Kendall netted an early goal in FIU's victory over UAB. It was Kendall's second tally this season.

STEADY AS SHE GOES



CHARI ADAMES-SMITH/THE BEACON

KEEP ON TRUCKIN': Freshman April Perry has performed well for the Golden Panthers in her first year on campus. She has tallied three assists this season and will be an integral part of any success FIU sustains in the Sun Belt Tournament.

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VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

Consistency key in taking game to next level

"After the game, I asked them if they were embarrassed by their performance today," said head volleyball coach Danijela Tomic.

Tomic was referring to her team's lackadaisical performance in its four-set victory over Louisiana's Ragin' Cajuns on Nov. 2.

Let me reiterate, the Golden Panthers' head coach challenged her team immediately following its

school record-11th consecutive win. Wow.

It's not often that a coach begins preparation for the next game so soon after a win, and in this case, another excellent weekend. But that was the case with FIU volleyball, and it was done with the greatest of intents.

Coach Tomic has reminded me several times this season that FIU has a

ten- dency to play to the level of its opponents, perhaps its greatest boon and most consummate debility.

This tendency toward mirroring its opponent's tempo and matching the team speed on the other side of the net has led to an 11 match win streak, and to FIU beating some quality opponents this season, but it has also created some strenuous moments for the Golden Panther coaching staff.

FIU draws a tremendous emotional advantage from its home fans, and that may

be one of the differences, come Sun Belt tournament time. Head coach Tomic swiftly reminded her team that anything less than a totally focused team effort would result in a more abashed moment in front of it's home supporters; a moment that will end the win streak in front of the home crowd.

It will surely take a grand performance to avenge their only conference loss of the 2008 campaign, and a 12th straight win, and 10th straight in conference is well with-

in reach, but it has to do with the elusive "complete game" that FIU might have only found once this season.

It can be asked then, "If FIU plays to its opponents level, how is it 23-4?" and the answer is simple: Athleticism. Something not often discussed, but the identity that is FIU is constituted of a supremely athletic team that doesn't play complete games.

Tomic knows that, and if her players can create some consistency, look out Sun Belt.



COMMENTARY

ANDREW JULIAN



PROTECTING THE HOUSE

FIU remains unbeaten at home following strong weekend

JONATHAN ALPERT
Asst. Sports Director

The FIU volleyball team remained undefeated at home, defeating New Orleans in four sets on Friday night, sweeping University of Louisiana at Monroe in 3 sets on Saturday night, and on Sunday afternoon taking care of Louisiana-Lafayette in four sets.

FIU has won 11 straight matches and has not lost at all in 10 matches played at home this season. The Golden Panthers remain atop the Sun Belt East Division with a 23-4 overall record and 13-1 within the conference. Head Coach Danijela Tomic attributes FIU's undefeated record at home to the atmosphere developing at FIU Arena.

"We love to play at home. Our fans are real educated about volleyball. They get excited about our rallies, and the players feed off that energy, and I think that's a big reason why we were undefeated at home," Tomic said. "Most of the Sun Belt teams are not used to playing in the atmosphere we create here at FIU."

FIU 3, NEW ORLEANS 1

FIU won for the 9th straight time,

beating New Orleans in 4 sets (25-19, 25-16, 19-25, 25-22). FIU started off slowly and trailed UNO 7-1 early in the first set, but a kill by freshman Sabrina Gonzalez propelled FIU to within 2 at 7-5. The Golden Panthers and the Pioneers traded points until FIU tied the match at 17. FIU pulled away from UNO with an 8-2 run and took the set 25-19.

The Golden Panthers didn't trail in the second set, which FIU took, 25-16. FIU took advantage of a poor hitting performance in the second set by UNO, (-.146), but couldn't pull away until New Orleans committed a service error with the score tied at 13. FIU went on a 12-3 run to close out the second set. Freshmen Andrea Lakovic and Sabrina Gonzalez, along with juniors Gaby Jaimes and Yarimar Rosa contributed defensively for the Golden Panthers during the second set.

The third set included some problems for FIU. UNO went on a 19-12 run to pull ahead 23-16. FIU scored three straight points but couldn't overcome the deficit. New Orleans took the set 25-19, and FIU's lead was cut to 2-1.

The fourth set was the most

even of the match. FIU and UNO were tied 8 times and with UNO leading 21-20, FIU pulled off a 5-1 run to close out the match and set.

Sophomore Setter Natalia Valentin led all players with 41 assists assessed her team's performance. "We started a little bit slowly, but we refocused, and came back and won." Junior Yarimar Rosa notched her 15th double-double of the season with 20 kills and 10 digs. Senior Mariana Drumeva added a season high 13 digs.

FIU 3, ULM 0

FIU had little trouble sweeping ULM, 25-12, 25-15, 25-16, as all 12 active players saw playing time. The Warhawks fell to 1-24 on the season as FIU won its 10th in a row remaining in first place in the Sun Belt east division with a 22-4 overall record. Yarimar Rosa and Natalia Valentin played only in the first set, as Tomic

used the match to spread around the playing time. Sophomore setter Ashlyn Balensiefer complemented Valentin efficiently leading the team with 14 assists.

FIU wasted no time getting out to a 13-4 lead in the first set. The Golden Panthers failed to put away the first set leading 24-8, giving up three straight points until taking the set 25-11.

In the second set, with Isadora Rangel serving, FIU went on a 9-0 run after the match was tied at 10. FIU took the set 25-15.

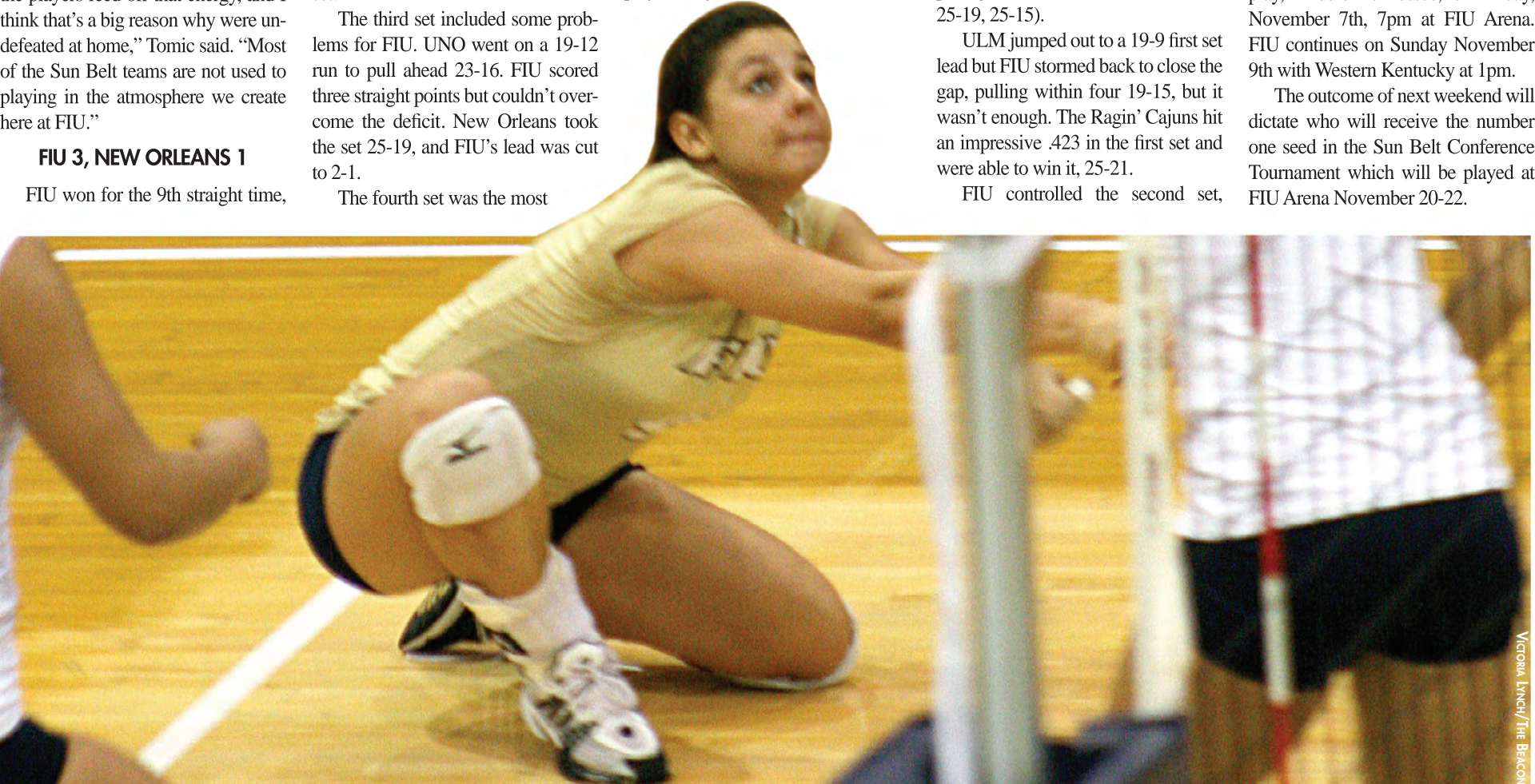
ULM took an early 5-2 third set lead but FIU tied it at 6 and didn't surrender the lead the rest of the set, taking the set and the match 25-16.

FIU 3, UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA 1

FIU won its school record 11th straight match improving to 23-4 disposing of UL in 4 sets (21-25, 25-11, 25-19, 25-15).

ULM jumped out to a 19-9 first set lead but FIU stormed back to close the gap, pulling within four 19-15, but it wasn't enough. The Ragin' Cajuns hit an impressive .423 in the first set and were able to win it, 25-21.

FIU controlled the second set,



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON